

The Columbian.

GEORGE H. MOORE, EDITOR.

BLOOMSBURG, SATURDAY, JULY 7, 1866.

"THAT LETTER."

Blountsburg, March 2, 1866. I have been thinking of you very much since I have been in the city.

If I am sustained by yourself and the President, if the patronage is not taken from me and given to those who oppose me, I shall be able to make our vigorous Union organization a unit and triumphantly resist the Administration.

The above letter appears in the last number of the Republican. It was, the reader will observe by its date, written to the Secretary of the Treasury long after the veto of the Freedman's Bureau Bill, and subsequent to the President's celebrated speech of the twenty-second of February.

We confess this letter took us by surprise, and we are sorry that in this we were alone. We were a stranger in this community, and the character of the writer unknown to us.

A VALUABLE DISINFECTANT.

A COMMUNICATION has been received at the Department of State from our Legation at London, enclosing two pamphlets relating to certain experiments by Dr. James Dewar, of Kilmacree, for testing the efficacy of sulphurous acid gas as a disinfectant.

NATIONAL UNION CONVENTION.

A NATIONAL UNION CONVENTION, of at least two delegates from each Congressional district of all the States, two from each Territory, two from the District of Columbia, and four delegates at large from each State, will be held at the City of Philadelphia, on the second Tuesday (fourteenth) of August next.

Such delegates will be chosen by the electors of the several States who sustain the Administration in maintaining unbroken the Union of the States, under the Constitution which our fathers established, and who agree in the following propositions, viz:

The Union of States is, in every case, indissoluble, and is perpetual; and the Constitution of the United States, and the laws passed by Congress in pursuance thereof, supreme, and constant, and universal in their obligation;

The rights, the dignity, and the equality of the States in the Union, including the right of representation in Congress, are solemnly guaranteed by that Constitution, to save which from overthrow so much blood and treasure were expended in the late civil war;

There is no right, anywhere, to dissolve the Union, or to separate States from the Union, either by voluntary withdrawal, by force of arms, or by Congressional action; neither by the secession of the States, nor by the exclusion of their loyal and qualified representatives, nor by the National Government in any other form;

Slavery is abolished, and neither can, nor ought to be, re-established in any State or Territory within our jurisdiction;

Each State has the undoubted right to prescribe the qualifications of its own electors, and no external power rightfully can, or ought to, dictate, control, or influence the free and voluntary action of the States in the exercise of that right;

The maintenance inviolate of the rights of the States, and especially of the right of each State to order and control its own domestic concerns, according to its own judgment exclusively, subject only to the Constitution of the United States, is essential to that balance of power on which the perfection and endurance of our political fabric depend, and the overthrow of that system by the usurpation and centralization of power in Congress would be a revolution, dangerous to republican government and destructive of liberty;

Each House of Congress is made, by the Constitution, the sole judge of the elections, returns, and qualifications of its members; but the exclusion of loyal Senators and Representatives, properly chosen and qualified, under the Constitution and laws, is unjust and revolutionary;

Every patriot should frown upon all those acts and proceedings, everywhere, which can serve no other purpose than to rekindle the animosities of war, and to the effect of which upon our moral, social, and material interests at home, and upon our standing abroad, differing only in degree, is injurious like war itself;

The purpose of the war having been to preserve the Union and the Constitution by putting down the Rebellion, and the Rebellion having been suppressed, all resistance to the authority of the General Government being at an end, and the war having ceased, war measures should also cease, and should be followed by measures of peaceful administration, so that union, harmony, and concord may be encouraged, and industry, commerce, and the arts of peace revived and promoted; and the early restoration of all the States to the exercise of their constitutional powers in the National Government is indispensably necessary to the strength and the defence of the Republic, and to the maintenance of the public credit;

All such electors in the thirty-six States and nine Territories of the United States, and in the District of Columbia, who, in a spirit of patriotism and love for the Union, can rise above personal and sectional considerations, and who desire to see a truly National Union Convention, which shall represent all the States and Territories of the Union, assemble, as friends and brothers, under the national flag, to hold counsel together upon the state of the Union, and to take measures to avert possible danger from the same, are specially requested to take part in the choice of such delegates.

But no delegate will take a seat in such Convention who does not loyally accept the national situation, and cordially endorse the principles above set forth, and who is not attached, in true allegiance, to the Constitution, the Union, and the Government of the United States.

- A. W. REXFALL, Pres't. J. R. DOOLITTLE. O. H. BROWNING. EDGAR COWAN. CHARLES KNAP. SAMUEL FOWLER. Executive Committee National Union Club.

We recommend the holding of the above Convention, and endorse the call therefor:

- DANIEL S. NORDON. J. W. NISBETH. JAMES DIXON. T. A. HUBBARD.

ADDRESS OF DEMOCRATIC SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES.

To the People of the United States:

Dangers threaten the Constitution. The citadel of our liberties is directly assailed. The future is dark unless the people will come to the rescue.

This unfortunate episode, which somehow found its way to Senators, put the finishing stroke to poor John.

WASHINGTON, July 4, 1866. DEAR CAPTAIN.—The glorious Fourth has come once more with its suspension of business, celebrations, parties, and above all, firing of crackers, torpedoes, and fireworks generally by the youngsters of the city.

But all this is aside from my purpose, which is to conclude the story of the nomination mentioned in my former letter, which you may desire to have in full, as it relates to a matter of local interest in your section.

After Mr. Clark's confirmation last week Mr. Mercer, accompanied by a fellow-member of the House from your State named Kelly, made a foray upon the Senate to get the subject reconsidered.

We therefore respectfully but earnestly urge upon our fellow-citizens in each State, and Territory, and Congressional district in the United States, in the interest of union and in spirit of harmony, and with direct reference to the principles contained in said call, to act promptly in the selection of wise, moderate, and conservative men to represent them in said Convention, to the end that all the States shall at once be restored to their practical relations to the Union, the Constitution maintained, and peace bless the whole country.

Signed by W. E. Niblack, Anthony Thornton, Michael C. Kerr, G. S. Shanklin, Garrett Davis, H. Grider, Thomas E. Noel, Samuel J. Randall, Lewis W. Ross, Stephen Taber, J. W. Humphrey, John Hogan, B. M. Boyer, F. G. Bergen, Charles Goodyear, Charles H. Winfield, A. H. Coffroth, Lovell H. Russell, Philip Johnson, Charles A. Eldridge, John L. Dawson, Reverdy Johnson, Thomas A. Hendricks, William Wright, James Guthrie, J. A. McDougall, William Redford, S. S. Marshall, Myer Strouse, Charles Sitzgreaves, S. E. Auerma, E. N. Hubbard, B. C. Ritter, A. Harding, A. S. Glassbrenner, E. R. V. Wright, A. J. Rogers, H. McCulloch, F. C. Le Blond, and W. E. Finck.

WASHINGTON LETTERS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 27, 1866. DEAR CAPTAIN.—The Senate of the United States, composed of thirty-nine Republicans and ten Democratic members, on yesterday confirmed the nomination of Robert F. Clark, Esq., as Assessor for the Thirteenth Congressional District of Pennsylvania, by a unanimous vote.

Although the proceedings of the Senate on nominations are secret, some things connected with them always transpire. Mercer has stated that he appeared before the Senate Committee on Finance, and made a speech against the nomination; which was, no doubt, a bitter one; and he also solicited members to oppose it.

The President on Thursday sent a message to the House in reply to a resolution requesting information as to whether any of the civil or military employes of the Government have assisted in the rendition of public honors to the Rebel living or dead. He incloses communications from the heads of departments in substance as follows: Secretary of State says he has no knowledge of the subject of the resolution.

Georgia or any other of the Rebel States have in any way countenanced or assisted in the rendition of public honors to traitors, either living or dead, or concurred in the obstruction or denial by the Rebel authorities of the privilege of doing like honors to loyalty at the graves of Union soldiers who have perished far from their homes and kindred.

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GENERAL PRESS DESPATESHES.

From Washington.

THE Postmaster-General sent a communication to Congress calling attention to abuses of the franking privilege, in the use of frank of members by claim agents, patent agents, etc.

General Steedman and Fullerton having completed their investigations in Missouri, arrived in New Orleans on Sunday, from whence they will make up and forward their report on Alabama and Mississippi.

During the past week the Senate has rejected an unusual number of the President's nominations, most of them men of unexceptional military record.

A circular has been issued by General Spinner, United States Treasurer, embodying the opinion of Solicitor of the Treasury Jordan, from which the former says it will be seen that no authority is invested in the Treasurer's Office or in the Department to refund to any National Bank the amount of duty claimed to have been erroneously exacted from it.

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A CLERGYMAN WHIPS HIS CHILD TO DEATH.

We learn from the railroad men who came from Medina this morning that there was great excitement in that village arising from a report that a Presbyterian clergyman, named Lindsley, residing a mile south of the village, yesterday whipped his son, three years old, so severely that he died two hours subsequently, because he would not say his prayers. Report adds that the child's fingers were broken by the blows administered. The report seemed so monstrous and unnatural that we telegraphed to Medina to learn if it was true. The telegraph states that the minister was two hours whipping the child with a heavy rod, and it died from its injuries within the time stated above. Lindsley had not been arrested at the time the despatch was sent, but we learn that an officer from Albion has gone to Medina to take him into custody. For the sake of common humanity we hope the story is exaggerated, and it may be possible that it is.

Since writing the above we have received by special telegraph the statement of Mr. Lindsley, the father of the child, made to a jury summoned by Coroner Chamberlain: "On the eighth of June the child disobeyed his stepmother, and I commenced correcting him, using a single for the purpose, and continued to chastise him for more than two hours, when the child began to show signs of debility, and I ceased to punish him and laid him on a couch and called my wife. When she saw the child she said he was dying, and before twelve o'clock he was dead." The coroner's jury returned a verdict yesterday "that death resulted from chastisement by the father." It will be seen that the whipping was given on the eighteenth instant, instead of yesterday, and that common report did not in this instance overstate the facts in the case. A child three years old whipped to death by its father because it could not or would not say its prayers! Is it possible, and of all other persons, that a clergyman should be guilty of such a piece of inhumanity? What should be his punishment? The condemnation of the public is not enough. The law should take firm hold of him and deal out justice to him with an unsparring hand. A cold-blooded murderer—it can be called nothing less—should not go unpunished. No wonder the people of Medina are indignant and excited.—Rochester Union, June 21.

SUCH CONSISTENCY.

WHEN Mr. Stevens denounced the President as an alien enemy, a usurper, and a tyrant, his Radical friends in Congress applauded the "veteran" to the echo; but when the President in a speech declared that Stevens and Sumner were disunionists because they favored keeping eleven States out of the Union, he was roundly abused for his indecorum and lack of good taste. When Senator Sumner characterized a communication of President Johnson as a "white-washing" proceeding, he was looked up to by the Radicals as a model of propriety; but when Andrew Johnson named the Massachusetts magistrate as one not desirous of a restoration of the States to their former places in the Union, he was denounced as a coarse villifier. Thad. Stevens recently styled those who sustain the President "yelling Secessionists and hissing Copperheads," and the Radicals manifested their approbation of his purity of speech; but when a New York Congressman styled the opponents of the President "wicked, revolutionary, malignant, and mischievous," the great consistency party honored him with a vote of censure, by a strict party vote. This party were recently about to thrust Mr. Davis, of Kentucky, from his seat in the Senate because of his alleged treasonable conduct, and had about concluded to send Senator McDougall home to California because of his horror at his indecorous language; but when Mr. Ingersoll, a member of Congress from Illinois, bitterly spoke of Andrew Johnson as a "liar, traitor, and a consummate donkey," the Radicals applauded him intensely, and begged him to continue in his vilification. Major-General Blair was denounced as a rowdy for desiring to reply to Governor Stone, in St. Joseph, and every opportunity to do so of the Radical meeting was denied; but the same fanatics went on their knees to beg the privilege of dividing the time with General Blair, in one of his meetings, and the privilege was granted them, and an attempted reply was made by one of their short-ranged howlers. By grouping these facts together we think our readers will perceive how much consistency and how much patriotism and loyalty these Pharisees possess.—St. Joseph (Missouri) Herald.

TO DIRECTORS AND SUPERINTENDENTS.

By the act of 1865, as found on page ninety-five of "School Law and Decisions," section seventy-five, the affidavit or certificate and the annual report are to be forwarded to this department at the same time. They should be made out and sent to the County Superintendent immediately after the school operations for the school year, for which they are made, have closed, and they cannot be made before. The warrant for the State appropriation cannot be issued until both these documents are on file in this department. If Directors send the affidavit to the County Superintendent without the report, it should be retained until the report has been received. This course will be much less troublesome to the Superintendent, as well as to the clerks in this department, who have charge of these documents. It should be remembered by Directors and Superintendents that the law positively requires "the certificate and report to be transmitted to the Superintendent of Common Schools on or before the fifteenth day of July, of the school year succeeding the one for which they were made."—Pennsylvania School Journal, June, 1866.